

**SAINT CLOUD AREA PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING
Thursday, April 29, 2021 @ 10 a.m.**

A Zoom meeting of the Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization's (APO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, April 29, 2021. Senior Transportation Planner Vicki Johnson presided with the following members participating via Zoom or telephone access:

Michael Kedrowski	Saint Cloud Metro Bus
Steve Voss	MnDOT District 3
Kelvin Howieson	MnDOT District 3
Jeff Lenz	MnDOT District 3
Matt Glaesman	City of Saint Cloud
Todd Schultz	City of Sauk Rapids
Chris Byrd	Benton County
Randy Sabert	City of St. Joseph
Jodi Teich	Stearns County
Jon Halter	City of Sartell
Angie Tomovic	City of Saint Cloud
Anna Pierce	MnDOT
Ben Thoele	Saint Cloud Community Member
Larry Hosch	ATAC Representative
Vicki Johnson	APO, Senior Planner
Brian Gibson	APO, Executive Director
Alex McKenzie	APO, Planning Technician
Fred Sandal	APO, Associate Planner
Amber Blattner	APO, Administrative Assistant

Ms. Johnson reviewed the Electronic Meeting Notification requirements.

Introductions were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Thoele wanted to introduce the concept of Stroads and discuss a YouTube video by an author named Not Just Bikes titled The Ugly, Dangerous, and Inefficient Stroads found all over the US and Canada. Ms. Johnson will send out the link to the YouTube video for the TAC members to view.

Consideration of Consent Agenda Items

Ms. Teich made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion. Motion carried. Roll Call: Kedrowski- YES; Voss - YES; Halter - YES; Byrd - YES; Sabart - YES; Teich - YES; Schultz - YES; Glaesman - YES

2019 Transportation Performance Monitoring Report

Mr. McKenzie reported that this is the third year of doing the Transportation Performance Monitoring Report. This year a story map was created using 2019 data to better connect the information to real life examples. This report is a quantitative overview of the transportation system in the Saint Cloud Area. Ms. Teich asked about the National Bridge Inventory (NBI) system and if these numbers are from MnDOT. Mr. McKenzie explained the NBI rating system and what qualifies good, fair, and poor ratings. Mr. Byrd asked if there are goals set to keep a certain percentage of pavement and bridges out of poor condition. Mr. McKenzie believes the target is set at 60% in good condition and the target is being met for bridges and pavement conditions. Targets are set every four years. Ms. Teich asked if Sartell ConneX is included in the Dial a Ride or if it is considered regular transit. Mr. McKenzie said these numbers do not include ConneX. Mr. Thoele asked if the air quality data correlates with Metro Bus converting to a natural gas bus fleet and if there is a correlation in the data with the advent of diesel modification chips. Mr. McKenzie said the next step is to corollate the data. Mr. Gibson added that this is not something that was looked at and there is a need to better connect the graphs to offer a narrative about what is collectively happening. The diesel chip is not something that has been looked at, but it will be keep in mind for the future. Ms. Piece asked how the downward trend in fixed route ridership, due to the uptick in Dial a Ride, has affected Metro Bus's funding. Mr. Kedrowski said he is not sure on that and they are looking into it. Mr. Lenz asked if there is an idea on when Toward Zero Deaths is hoping to be reached. Mr. McKenzie said overall we want a decline from year to year but do need to discuss more on the exact date. It is discouraged to set the target at zero because it is not a realistic goal. Mr. Gibson added on an annual basis the TAC reviews targets for federal reporting purposes. Mr. Thoele asked how they plan to decrease every year. Mr. McKenzie said the long-range transportation plan is the guiding document used to get a vision for the future. Mr. Gibson said the intent for data information collection is to decide what projects get funding for surface transportation projects. If there is an increase in crashes for a certain area it would influence how funds get allocated. Ms. Teich asked if at any point they will be required to include the goals in the plan and set up things that would push us in that direction. Ms. Pierce said they are looking at the staff recommendations and they are planning to adopt something and figuring out what direction to go in. Ms. Johnson noted any links that have been sent via chat during this meeting will be emailed out. Mr. Byrd asked for clarification if they are approving the report, not the public story map at this time. Ms. Johnson confirmed they are looking for report approval.

Mr. Voss made a motion to approve the Transportation Performance Monitoring Report. Ms. Teich seconded the motion. Motion carried. Roll Call: Kedrowski– YES; Voss – YES; Halter – YES; Byrd – YES; Sabart – YES; Teich – YES; Glaesman – YES

2021-2025 Regional Infrastructure Investment Plan

The Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) must include regionally significant projects regardless of funding source. The Regional Infrastructure Investment Plan (RIIP) looks at locally funded project decisions being made on a regional basis. This year versus last year is different because the previous 12 months of construction were included to better develop accurate cost projections when looking at the MTP. Mr. Gibson commented that the benefit of this document is project coordination between jurisdictions. Mr. Byrd asked if there is a deadline to have this approved by a certain date because Benton County did not update their CIP. Ms. Teich agrees with Mr. Byrd and would like this approval to be pushed back. Mr. Gibson said that this can be delayed for now and we can check in on it at the next meeting. Ms. Pierce asked if this document is to please the public. Ms. Johnson asked Ms. Teich and Mr. Byrd if they think their 2021 projects will be finalized and if at the next TAC meeting the 2021 plan could be presented. Ms. Teich and Mr. Byrd confirmed their 2021 projects are finalized. The 2022-2025 will be presented in the future.

Other Business and Announcements

Ms. Pierce noted that the statewide multimodal transportation plan is underway and public engagement opportunities will be sent out to everyone to share. Ms. Johnson noted the 2022-2025 TIP will be presented at the next meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.